

Constitution of the Southern Young Nationals

Article 1 Southern Young Nationals

1. The Southern Young Nationals (“the Southern Young Nats”) is the Southern Regional of the New Zealand Young Nationals, aligned with the Southern Region of the New Zealand National Party, as established by the Constitution of the New Zealand National Party and the Constitution of the New Zealand Young Nationals.

Article 2 Aims and Purpose of the Southern Young Nats

- 2.1. To promote the vision, values and policies of the National Party in the Southern Region.
- 2.2. To co-ordinate the activities of the Young Nationals in the Southern Region.
- 2.3. To further the goals and aspirations of the Southern Region Young Nationals within the National Party.
- 2.4. To grow and develop the membership and participation of young people in the National Party.
- 2.5. To undertake fundraising initiatives to support the activities of the Southern Region Young Nationals.
- 2.6. To organise events for members of the Southern Young Nats.
- 2.7. To provide a forum for young supporters of the National Party to discuss issues, policies and political news.

Article 3 Membership

- 3.1 All members of the New Zealand National Party under the age of 30 and over the age of 12 may be eligible to become members.
- 3.2 Any eligible person shall become a member of the Southern Young nats on payment of a membership fee to the New Zealand National Party
- 3.4 Members of the Southern Young Nats will each have a single vote at Annual General Meetings or Special General Meetings.

Article 4 The Executive

- 4.1 An Executive shall conduct the business of the Southern Young Nats.
- 4.3 The Executive shall consist of the following members: the Regional Chair, the Deputy Chair, the Policy Chair, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the Digital Coordinator, and the Membership Officer. All members of the committee shall be required to be members of the Society.
- 4.4 The Regional Chair shall have the following roles and responsibilities:
 - 4.4.1 Overall responsibility for the affairs of the Society.
 - 4.4.2 Chair all meetings of the Society, save where decided otherwise by the Executive or where otherwise provided for in this constitution.

4.4.3 Liaise with the National Executive and other Regions, Electorate Committees, the Regional Council and other Party officials, at the Executive's discretion.

4.4.4 Be the official spokesperson for the Society.

4.4.5 Be responsible for organising and maintaining the membership of the Society.

4.4.6 Be a signatory on the Society's bank accounts. 4.4.7 Submit the annual report.

4.5 The Deputy Chair shall have the following roles and responsibilities:

4.5.1 Assume the duties of the Chair should the Chair be absent or unable to fulfil their duties.

4.5.2 Organise events and functions of the Society.

4.5.3 Manage affiliations of the Society.

4.6 The Secretary shall have the following roles and responsibilities:

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4.6.1 Organise and advertise meetings of the Executive and the Society.

4.6.2 Manage the Society's public relations and press releases.

4.6.3 Manage communication with the branches of the Southern Young Nats.

4.7 The Treasurer shall have the following roles and responsibilities:

4.7.1 Keep the non-financial records of the Society.

4.7.2 Be a signatory on the Society's bank accounts, and manage the financial affairs and records of the Society.

4.7.3 Prepare the end of year accounts, financial report and annual budget of the Society.

4.8 The Policy Chair shall have the following roles and responsibilities:

4.8.1 Manage policy development of the Society.

4.8.2 Liaise with the National Executive, other Regions', Regional, and Electorate Policy Chairs.

4.8.3 Facilitate campaigns of the Society.

4.8.4 Coordinate the public relations of the Society in relation to policy.

4.9 The Digital Coordinator shall have the following roles and responsibilities:

4.9.1 Coordinate the Society's social media presence.

4.9.2 Produce the Society's newsletters.

4.9.3 Manage the Executive's external communications to Members.

4.10 The Membership Officer shall have the following roles and responsibilities:

4.10.1 Maintain the Society's Membership information.

4.10.2 Lead initiatives to engage current members.

4.10.3 Lead initiatives to engage potential new members.

4.9 Powers and Duties of the Executive.

4.9.1 The Executive is charged with the day to day running of the Southern Young Nats.

4.9.2. The Executive shall pursue the aims and purposes of the Southern Young Nats.

4.9.3 The Executive shall regularly consult with the membership of the Southern Young Nats.

4.9.4 Meetings of the Executive may occur in person or by Skype, conference call, Facebook chat or any other similar only occur via Skype, conference call, Facebook chat or messaging, or in person.

4.11 The Executive may co-opt other Members on to the Executive at their discretion so long as at no time shall the number of co-opted Members be equal to or more than the number of elected Members.

Article 5 General Meetings

5.1 Annual General Meeting

5.1.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Southern Young Nats shall take place between 1st January and 30th April each calendar year provided that no more than 14 months has passed since the previous AGM.

5.1.2 The date and time of the Annual General Meeting shall be determined by the Executive.

5.1.3 Notice of any AGM shall be issued to the membership of the Southern Young Nats at least 14 days prior to the AGM.

5.2 Special General Meetings

5.2.1 A Special General Meeting of the Society may be convened to:

(i) Hold an election to fill a vacancy on the Executive, should one arise;

(ii) Consider a proposal to amend this constitution or any other governing instrument of the Society;

(iii) Address any other circumstance not provided for in this constitution.

5.2.1 A Special General Meeting shall be convened:

(i) By majority decision of the Executive; or

(ii) On foot of a submission, written or otherwise, to the Executive of the Society of a petition signed by not less than a 10% of members of the Southern Young Nats..

5.2.3 Notice of any AGM shall be issued to the membership of the Southern Young Nats at least 14 days prior to any SGM.

Article 6 Election of the Executive

6.1 The Executive of the Southern Young Nats shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting or if needs arise, a Special General Meeting.

6.2 The Chair shall act as returning officer for the elections. Where the Chair intends to be a candidate in any election, a returning officer, who is not a candidate in any election, shall be appointed by the membership to act as returning officer for that election.

6.3 All paid members of the Southern Young nats shall be eligible for election to the committee.

6.4 Candidates for each position on the executive of the Southern Young Nats must be proposed and seconded by members of the Southern Young Nats at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.

6.5 Nominations may be received before the conduct of any General Meeting and shall be directed to the Secretary.

6.6 All members of the Southern Young Nats shall be entitled to vote in the election of the committee, subject to clause 6.8.

6.7 The election of members of the executive shall take place by secret ballot at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting. Where the votes obtained by any candidate exceed the votes obtained by any other candidate for that position, they shall be deemed elected to that position.

6.7 Members who hold honorary memberships are ineligible to vote in any meeting of the Society.

Article 7 Resignations from the Committee

7.1 The resignation of any member of the committee shall be instituted by a letter of resignation to the Deputy Chair of the Society. In the case of the resignation of the Deputy Chair, resignation may be instituted by a letter of resignation to the Chair.

Article 8 Management of Finance

8.1 The finances of the Southern Young Nats shall be managed by the Treasurer and Chair.

8.2 The Chair and Treasurer shall be signatories to the Southern Young Nats' bank accounts.

8.3 The Treasurer of the New Zealand Young Nationals shall be the auditor of the finances of the Southern Young Nats and may audit them at any time he/she desires.

Article 9 Amendments to the Constitution

9.1 Amendments to this constitution may be made at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting of the Southern Young Nats.

9.2 Such amendments to this constitution as may be approved by an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting of the Southern Young Nats shall require the formal approval of the membership before taking effect.

9.3 Any amendments to these Standing Orders take force immediately following the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, unless otherwise provided.